



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/750,226	12/31/2003	Robert E. Brenner	456.03.076US1	6639

7590 11/30/2005

Mark A. Litman & Associates, P.A.
York Business Center, Suite 205
3209 West 76th St.
Edina, MN 55435

EXAMINER

TRAN, HOAN H

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2852

DATE MAILED: 11/30/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/750,226

Applicant(s)

BRENNER, ROBERT E.

Examiner

Hoan H. Tran

Art Unit

2852

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 September 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 and 13-15 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 12 September 2005 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. Claims 1-11 and 13-15 are objected to because of the following informalities:
 - Claim 1, line 4, change "photoconductor" to --photoconductive--.
 - Claim 5, line 1, change "photoconductor" to --photoconductive--.
 - Claim 9, line 2, change "photoconductor" to --photoconductive--.
 - Claims 2-4, 6-8, 10, 11 and 13-15 are also objected for the same reason because of their dependency on claims 1 and 9, respectively.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

3. Claim 12 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

- Claim 12 recites the limitations "the second corona charging device" in line 4 and "the second corona charge device" in line 9. There is insufficient antecedent basis for these limitations in the claim.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 1-11 and 13-15 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the objection(s) set forth in this Office action.

5. Claim 12 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in this Office action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

6. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 1-8, 13 and 15

None of the prior art of record teaches or suggests a system for providing electrophotographic latent images on a photoconductive element having a conductive stripe that is in contact with a photoconductive layer on one edge of the photoconductive element comprising a first corona charge device positioned to charge the photoconductive layer, and a second corona charge device positioned to charge the conductive stripe with a charge that is opposite a charge provided by the first corona charge device.

Claims 9-12 and 14

None of the prior art of record teaches or suggests a method of providing latent images on a photoconductive element having a photoconductive layer with a conductive stripe, the method comprising the steps of charging the photoconductive layer with a charge having a particular vector to form a uniform charge on the photoconductive layer, and subsequently charging the conductive stripe with a charge having vector that is opposite the vector of the charge on the photoconductive layer to lower the charge content on the photoconductive layer.

Art Unit: 2852

Prior Art

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

- Branch et al. [6,246,852] disclose a grid electrode for corona charger.

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hoan H. Tran whose telephone number is (571) 272-2141. The examiner can normally be reached from 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mr. Arthur Grimley can be reached at (571) 272-2136. The central office fax number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.



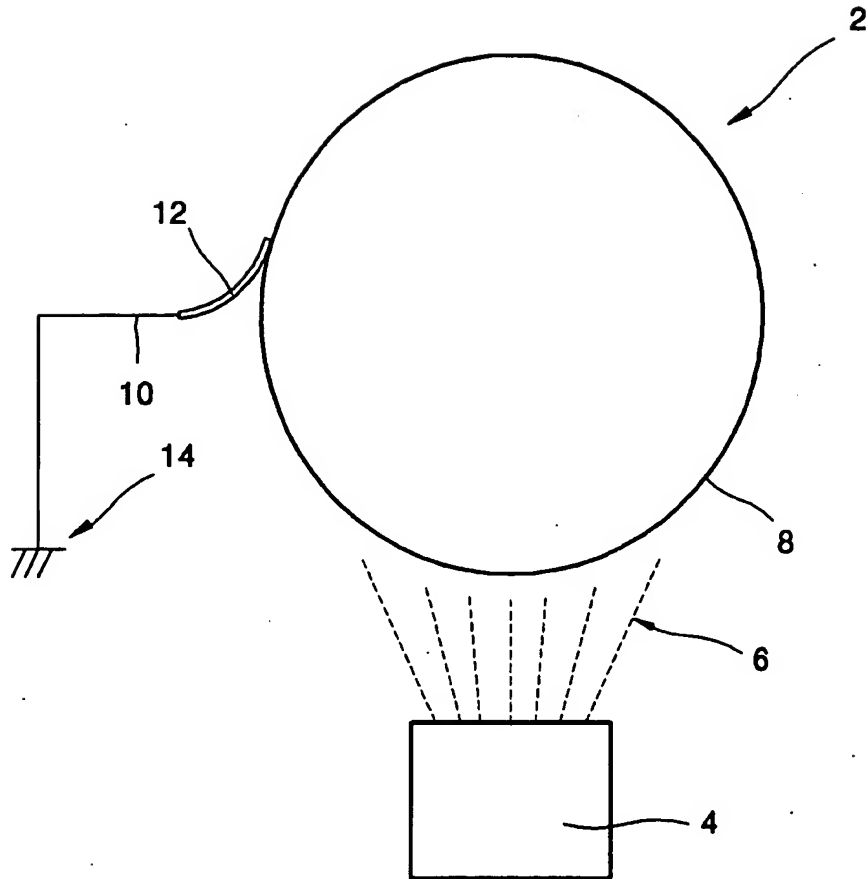
HHT
November 26, 2005

**HOAN TRAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER**



Approved
H. J. [Signature]

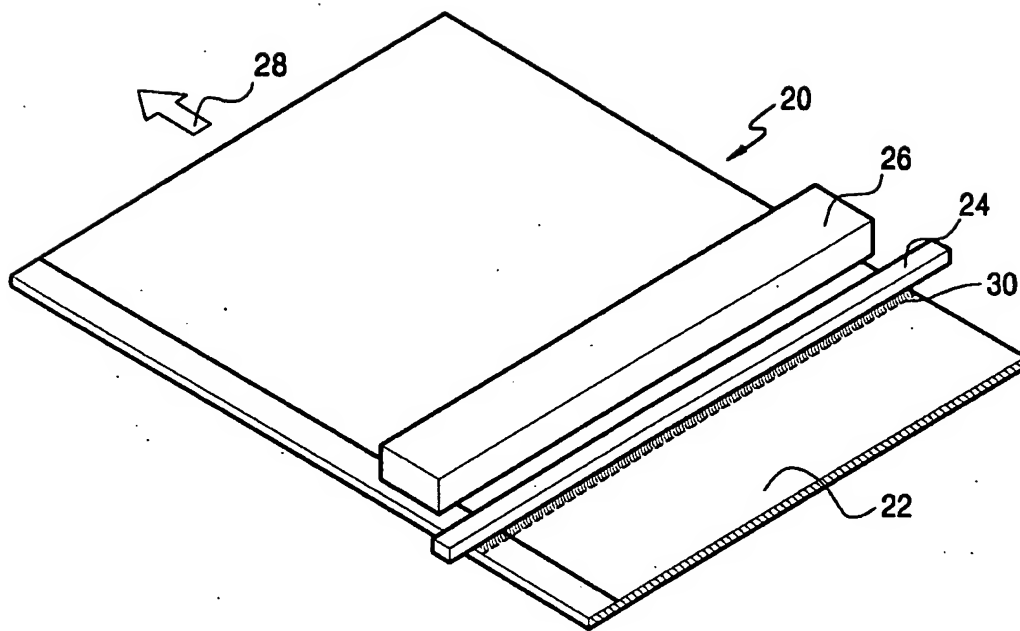
FIG. 1 (PRIOR ART)



REPLACEMENT SHEET

Approved
H/2/05

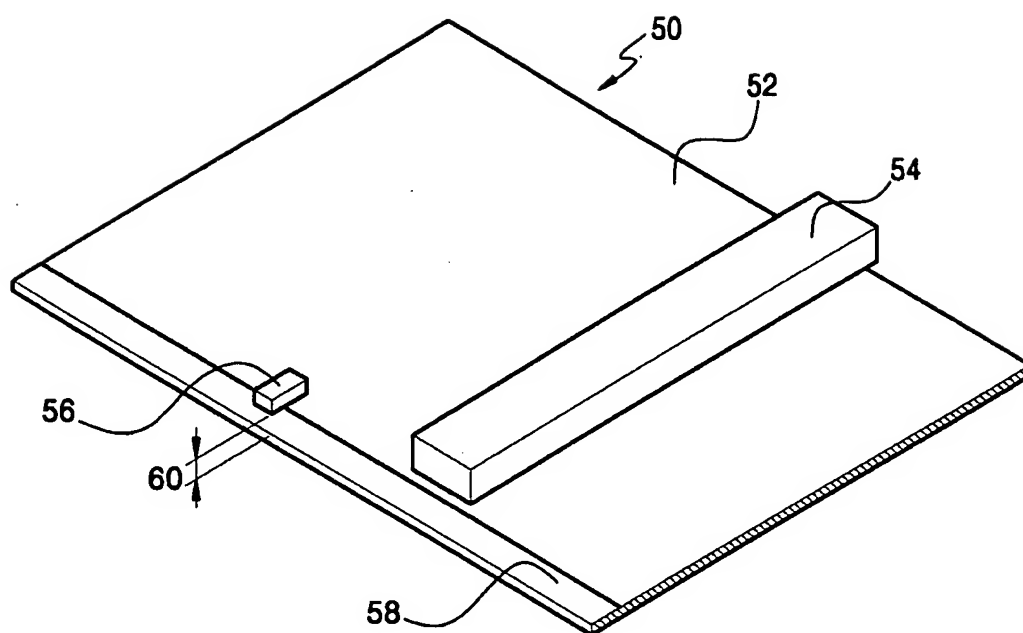
FIG. 2 (PRIOR ART)



REPLACEMENT SHEET

Approved
H
H/2/2005

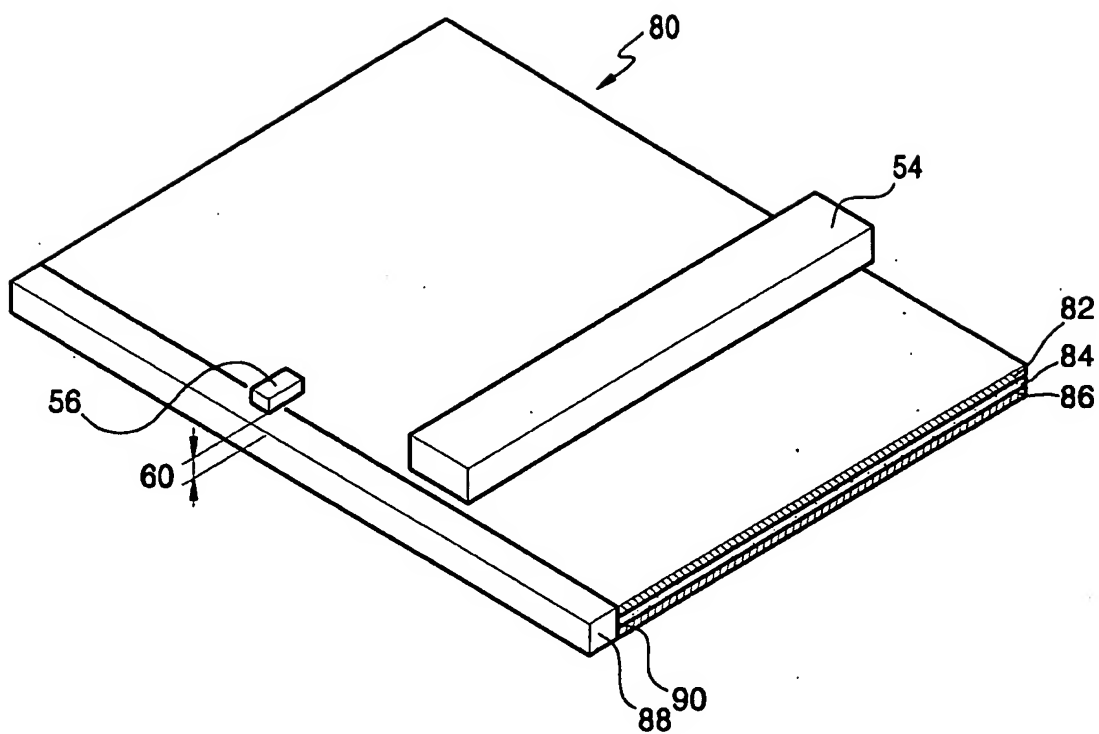
FIG. 3



REPLACEMENT SHEET

Approved
1/5
H. J. Baker

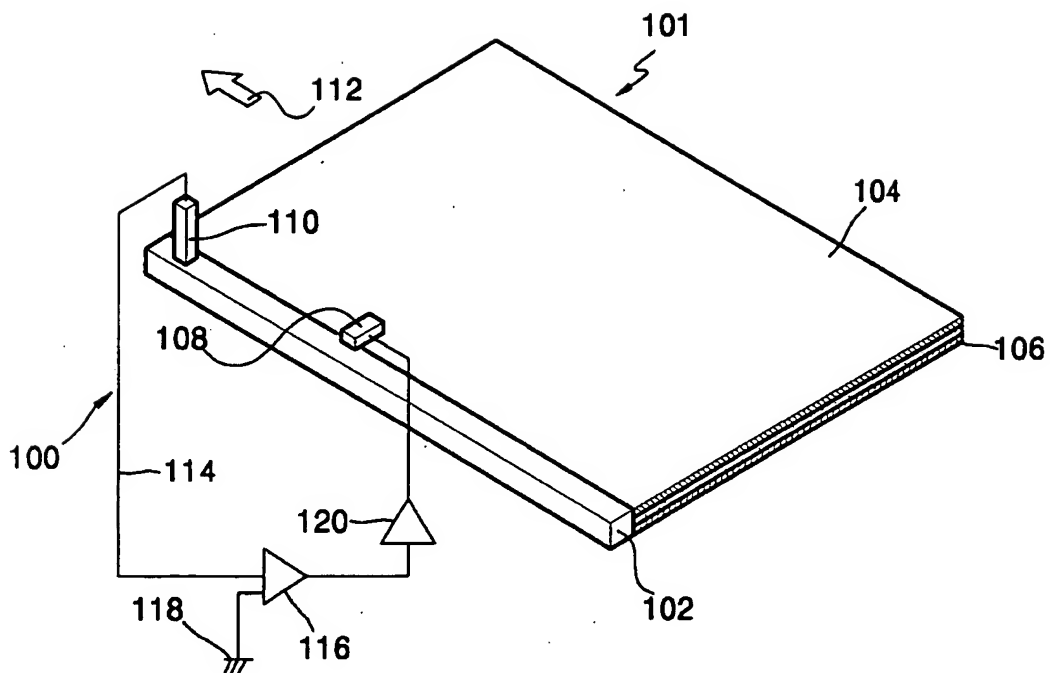
FIG. 4



REPLACEMENT SHEET

Approved
H. B. B.

FIG. 5



REPLACEMENT SHEET